

CLAIMS

I CLAIM:

1. An unbonded capping system for strength testing of concrete masonry  
2 units, comprising:  
a rigid, rectangular foam board of a size to be received on a face of a concrete  
4 masonry unit; and  
a plastic sheet laminated to the rigid foam board and being engagable by a test  
6 apparatus, in use, with the rigid foam board engaging the face of the concrete masonry unit to  
provide even load distribution during testing.
2. The unbonded capping system of claim 1 wherein the rigid foam board  
2 comprises an expanded polystyrene (EPS) foam board.
3. The unbonded capping system of claim 2 wherein the EPS foam board has  
2 a density greater than 2 lb/ft<sup>3</sup>.
4. The unbonded capping system of claim 2 wherein the EPS foam board has  
2 a density of about 3 lb/ft<sup>3</sup>.

5. The unbonded capping system of claim 1 wherein the foam board has a  
2 thickness of about 0.5 inches and the plastic sheet has a thickness of about 0.06 inches.

6. The unbonded capping system of claim 1 wherein the plastic sheet is  
2 laminated to the rigid foam board with an adhesive.

7. For use with a testing system for compression testing of concrete masonry  
2 units including first and second platens, a pair of compression pads each comprising:  
a rigid, rectangular foam board of a size to be received on one face of a concrete  
4 masonry unit; and  
a plastic sheet laminated to the rigid foam board and being engagable by one of  
6 the test platens, in use, with the rigid foam board engaging the face of the concrete masonry unit  
to provide even load distribution during testing.

8. The compression pads of claim 7 wherein the rigid foam board comprises  
2 an expanded polystyrene (EPS) foam board.

9. The compression pads of claim 8 wherein the EPS foam board has a  
2 density greater than 2 lb/ft<sup>3</sup>.

10. The compression pads of claim 8 wherein the EPS foam board has a  
2 density of about 3 lb/ft<sup>3</sup>.

11. The compression pads of claim 7 wherein the foam board has a thickness  
2 of about 0.5 inches and the plastic sheet has a thickness of about 0.06 inches.

12. The compression pads of claim 7 wherein the plastic sheet is laminated to
- 2 the rigid foam board with an adhesive.

13. In a capping system for compression testing of concrete masonry units  
2 including first and second platens, the improvement comprising:  
a pair of laminated compression pads, each comprising a rigid, rectangular foam  
4 layer of a size to be received on one face of a concrete masonry unit, and a plastic sheet layer  
laminated to the rigid foam layer and being engagable by one of the test platens, in use, with the  
6 rigid foam layer engaging the face of the concrete masonry unit to provide even load distribution  
during testing.

14. The improvement of claim 13 wherein the rigid foam layer comprises an  
2 expanded polystyrene (EPS) foam board.

15. The improvement of claim 14 wherein the EPS foam board has a density  
2 greater than 2 lb/ft<sup>3</sup>.

16. The improvement of claim 14 wherein the EPS foam board has a density  
2 of about 3 lb/ft<sup>3</sup>.

17. The improvement of claim 13 wherein the foam layer has a thickness of  
2 about 0.5 inches and the plastic sheet layer has a thickness of about 0.06 inches.

18. The improvement of claim 13 wherein the plastic sheet layer is laminated  
2 to the rigid foam layer with an adhesive.

19. An unbonded capping system for strength testing of concrete masonry  
2 units, comprising:  
a pair of laminated compression pads, each comprising a high density expanded  
4 polystyrene (EPS) foam layer of a size to be received on a face of a concrete masonry unit, and a  
plastic sheet layer adhered to the EPS foam layer and being engagable by a test apparatus, in use,  
6 with the EPS foam layer engaging the face of the concrete masonry unit to provide even load  
distribution during testing.

20. The unbonded capping system of claim 19 wherein the EPS foam layer  
2 has a density of about 3 lb/ft<sup>3</sup>.

21. The unbonded capping system of claim 19 wherein the EPS foam layer  
2 has a thickness of about 0.5 inches and the plastic sheet layer has a thickness of about 0.06  
inches.